

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An address retrieval apparatus includes a retrieval table having
5 plural table nodes for different hierarchical levels of a hierarchical tree
structure, a divided bit string retrieval block, and a transfer destination
distribution information acquiring block for acquiring a transfer destination
distribution information from a transfer destination distribution information
table based on a retrieval result supplied from the divided bit string
10 retrieval block. An original bit string providing an inputted route
information is divided into plural divided bit strings correspondent to
respective brunches with the different hierarchical levels, thereby to do
retrieval processes by a sequential use of the plural divided bit strings in the
sequence from the bottom level to the top level with shifting up by one
15 level the hierarchical level until the location designation information is
retrieved.